

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6 remain pending after amendment.

Claim Amendments

By this amendment, claim 5 is cancelled and the limitations thereof inserted into claims 1 and 3. Process claim 7 is cancelled. The dependencies of the claims are amended accordingly. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Objections to Claims

The Examiner objects to claims 4-7 as being improper multiple dependent claims. In response, the claims are amended in a manner which is believed to overcome this objection. The objection is thus without basis and should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tohi et al EP 924,233. This rejection respectfully is traversed to the extent deemed to apply to the claims as amended.

In response to the rejection, the claims are now amended to recite the specific Lewis acid component of claim 5 which is an essential co-catalyst of the claimed invention.


The cited reference fails to disclose or suggest the use of the specifically claimed Lewis acid component, as the co-catalyst component disclosed in Tohi (such as compounds represented by the formulas $MR^1R^2R^3$ and $R^a_mAl(OR^b)_nX_p$) is entirely distinct from those recited in the claimed invention.

As a result, the rejection is without basis and should be withdrawn.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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